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Labor Market Digest, December 1996

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information

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Maine Department of Labor

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

October Data

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December 1996

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded lowest unemployment rate in the state page 3

Adjusted unemployment rate declined in October page 4

Nonfarm employment almost unchanged over the month page 6

Nine counties report employment gains page 8

A publication of the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

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Eligible Labor Surplus Areas for Bidding on Federal Contracts

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, recently released a list of labor surplus areas. The list, which became effective October 1, 1996 and remains in effect through September 30, 1997, contains the Maine counties of Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Oxford, Piscataquis, Somerset, Waldo, and Washington.

An area is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least 20 percent above the average unemployment rate for all states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) during the previous two calendar years.

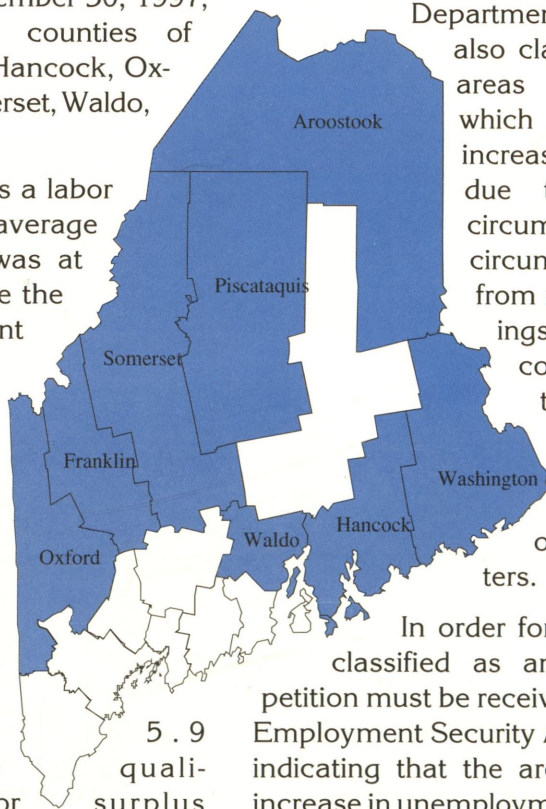
The national average unemployment rate during the period of January 1994 through December 1995 was 5.9 percent, making the qualifying rate for labor surplus area classification 7.1 percent (5.9 percent times 1.2).

Employers located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct government procurement dollars into

areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e., areas with the highest rates of unemployment.

In addition to the basic labor surplus area classification criteria, the U.S. Department of Labor may also classify as surplus areas jurisdictions in which unemployment increases significantly due to "exceptional circumstances." Such circumstances result from major plant closings or cutbacks, contract cancellations, or such catastrophic events as fires, floods, and other major disasters.

In order for an area to be classified as an exception, a petition must be received from a State Employment Security Agency (SESA) indicating that the area has had an increase in unemployment which is not temporary or seasonal and which was not adequately reflected in the previous two-year reference period used in preparation of the annual listing. SESAs are responsible for initiating the preparation and submittal of these petitions.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	46,900	46,570	45,870	44,700	44,360	43,340	2,200	2,210	2,530	4.7%	4.8%	5.5%
Bangor MSA	50,900	50,800	50,600	49,300	49,200	48,500	1,600	1,600	2,200	3.2	3.1	4.3
Bath-Brunswick	34,640	35,530	34,370	33,570	34,380	33,310	1,070	1,140	1,060	3.1	3.2	3.1
Belfast	13,200	13,270	12,730	12,600	12,700	12,070	600	570	660	4.5	4.3	5.2
Biddeford	40,090	42,280	37,060	39,020	41,240	35,860	1,070	1,040	1,200	2.7	2.5	3.2
Boothbay Harbor	8,910	9,680	8,930	8,720	9,510	8,710	180	170	210	2.1	1.7	2.4
Bucksport	5,180	5,360	5,000	4,930	5,110	4,750	260	240	250	4.9	4.5	4.9
Calais	5,450	5,470	5,530	4,960	4,990	5,060	500	490	470	9.1	8.9	8.5
Dexter-Pittsfield	13,610	13,270	12,930	12,500	12,310	11,730	1,110	960	1,190	8.1	7.2	9.2
Dover-Foxcroft	7,410	7,440	7,440	6,930	6,980	6,970	480	460	470	6.4	6.2	6.3
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	19,860	21,280	18,850	19,190	20,650	18,140	670	630	710	3.4	3.0	3.8
Farmington	17,510	17,470	17,330	16,450	16,390	16,340	1,060	1,080	1,000	6.1	6.2	5.8
Fort Kent	3,890	3,890	4,000	3,580	3,560	3,710	300	320	290	7.8	8.3	7.3
Greenville	1,280	1,400	1,150	1,220	1,340	1,060	70	60	90	5.2	4.4	7.8
Houlton	6,680	7,070	6,780	6,280	6,610	6,320	400	450	460	6.0	6.4	6.8
Jonesport-Milbridge	4,230	4,640	4,260	4,010	4,380	4,020	220	260	240	5.3	5.6	5.6
Kittery-York ⁵	19,960	20,100	19,800	19,700	19,830	19,490	270	270	310	1.3	1.3	1.6
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	52,500	52,200	52,200	49,900	49,400	49,700	2,600	2,800	2,500	4.9	5.4	4.9
Lincoln-Howland	5,900	6,030	5,790	5,550	5,690	5,450	350	340	340	6.0	5.7	5.9
Machias-Eastport	6,880	6,800	6,740	6,370	6,290	6,240	510	510	500	7.4	7.4	7.4
Madawaska	4,230	4,320	4,060	3,990	4,080	3,820	240	240	250	5.6	5.5	6.0
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,270	5,260	5,160	4,930	4,920	4,710	350	340	460	6.5	6.5	8.8
Norway-Paris	11,040	11,130	11,120	10,400	10,430	10,320	640	710	800	5.8	6.3	7.2
Outer Bangor	7,870	7,550	7,860	7,400	7,110	7,380	470	440	490	5.9	5.8	6.2
Patten-Island Falls	2,070	2,120	2,090	1,920	1,960	1,920	160	160	170	7.6	7.7	8.0
Portland MSA	131,500	129,900	125,400	128,300	126,600	121,700	3,200	3,300	3,700	2.4	2.5	3.0
Presque Isle-Caribou	20,840	20,660	20,370	19,400	19,240	18,720	1,440	1,410	1,650	6.9	6.8	8.1
Rockland	24,860	25,750	24,090	24,250	25,130	23,350	610	620	730	2.5	2.4	3.0
Rumford	9,960	9,930	10,170	9,440	9,380	9,570	530	550	600	5.3	5.5	5.9
Sanford	22,680	22,500	21,230	21,440	21,300	20,160	1,250	1,200	1,070	5.5	5.3	5.0
Sebang Lakes Region	13,920	13,770	13,390	13,460	13,270	12,710	450	500	680	3.3	3.6	5.1
Skowhegan	16,810	17,060	16,280	15,640	15,860	15,110	1,170	1,200	1,180	7.0	7.0	7.2
Stonington	5,670	5,490	5,580	5,570	5,370	5,430	100	120	150	1.8	2.1	2.6
Van Buren	1,560	1,570	1,540	1,440	1,450	1,400	120	120	140	7.8	7.4	8.8
Waterville	25,160	25,610	25,320	23,580	24,100	23,690	1,580	1,510	1,620	6.3	5.9	6.4
MAINE	668,400	673,100	651,000	640,600	645,100	620,700	27,800	28,000	30,400	4.2	4.2	4.7
UNITED STATES (000)	135,015	134,230	132,863	128,439	127,529	125,979	6,577	6,700	6,884	4.9	5.0	5.2

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current month estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. MSA stands for Metropolitan Statistical Area.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following: they were not employed during the survey week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force, and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	58,720	58,480	58,460	55,880	55,350	55,580	2,850	3,140	2,880	4.8%	5.4%	4.9%
Aroostook	38,800	39,200	38,360	36,150	36,440	35,420	2,660	2,760	2,940	6.8	7.0	7.7
Cumberland	139,690	138,510	133,930	136,300	134,980	129,820	3,390	3,520	4,110	2.4	2.5	3.1
Franklin	14,650	14,610	14,500	13,770	13,720	13,680	880	890	820	6.0	6.1	5.7
Hancock	27,920	29,200	26,810	27,060	28,360	25,820	860	850	990	3.1	2.9	3.7
Kennebec	61,750	61,780	60,790	58,620	58,700	57,470	3,130	3,080	3,330	5.1	5.0	5.5
Knox	22,120	22,920	21,400	21,560	22,340	20,760	560	590	640	2.5	2.6	3.0
Lincoln	17,360	18,270	17,230	16,890	17,840	16,690	470	430	540	2.7	2.4	3.1
Oxford	26,020	26,030	26,030	24,730	24,610	24,460	1,290	1,420	1,570	5.0	5.4	6.0
Penobscot	77,620	77,150	76,790	74,190	73,940	72,580	3,430	3,210	4,210	4.4	4.2	5.5
Piscataquis	8,780	8,930	8,680	8,230	8,400	8,100	550	530	580	6.3	5.9	6.7
Sagadahoc	15,880	16,320	15,770	15,370	15,750	15,250	510	570	520	3.2	3.5	3.3
Somerset	26,920	27,100	26,050	25,010	25,220	24,130	1,910	1,890	1,910	7.1	7.0	7.3
Waldo	18,640	18,740	18,170	17,700	17,870	17,120	940	880	1,050	5.1	4.7	5.8
Washington	16,980	17,340	16,890	15,720	16,080	15,680	1,260	1,260	1,210	7.4	7.3	7.2
York	96,530	98,490	91,170	93,450	95,480	88,120	3,080	3,010	3,050	3.2	3.1	3.3
MAINE	668,400	673,100	651,000	640,600	645,100	620,700	27,800	28,000	30,400	4.2	4.2	4.7
UNITED STATES (000)	135,015	134,230	132,863	128,439	127,529	125,979	6,577	6,700	6,884	4.9	5.0	5.2

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Area

Alan Cox (207) 624-5190

Negotiations by an investment group were completed to keep the Hathaway Shirt Company operating and save nearly 500 jobs in the Waterville area. The Kennebec Valley Council of Governments received a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to address job loss in the region by conducting market analysis and developing a strategy to improve economic and labor market conditions.

Western Area

Gerard Dennison (207) 783-5314

The unemployment rate in the Norway-Paris LMA dropped to 5.8 percent in October, down from 7.2 percent in October 1995. The long-awaited expansion of the Oxford County Regional Airport in Oxford is expected to occur in June of 1997. The \$920,000 hangar expansion project should create 50 new jobs refurbishing passenger planes at Oxford Aviation. Job training will be done through the Central Maine Technical College Quality Center Program.

Southern Area

Eva Smith (207) 822-0216

Seasonal employment gains offset seasonal losses in most Southern Maine areas, and unemployment rates remained low. October events for Portland Biddeford, a massive oil spill in Portland Harbor, and a record-breaking rainstorm that caused considerable flood damage. Over 500 specialized out-of-state workers were recruited for the oil cleanup, a boon for local restaurants and lodging establishments. Storm repairs continued to keep local utility workers, plumbers, electricians, and carpenters busy.

North/East Area

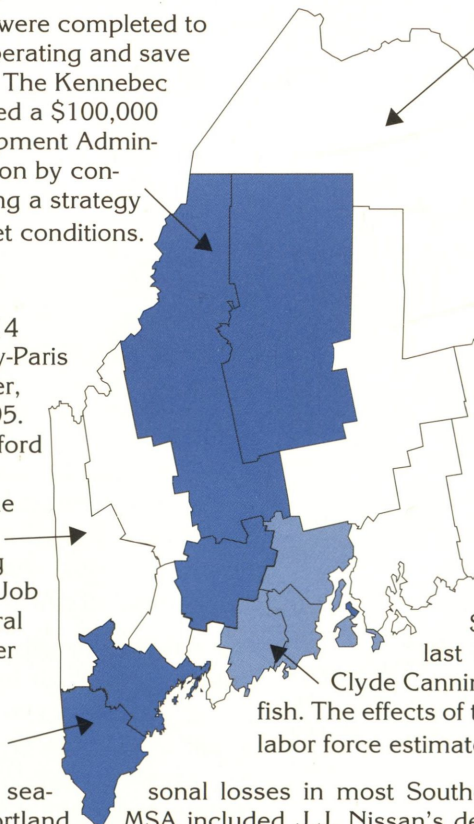
Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

Despite being offered a state-arranged package of incentives, Gerber Childrenswear will go ahead with plans to close its Fort Kent factory and move operations to Texas. The Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline Co. project continues to move forward. The viability of the proposed pipeline, that will carry natural gas from Sable Island off Nova Scotia through Maine to Massachusetts, will depend on contracts from at least some of Maine's 17 paper mills.

Coastal Area

Ken Bridges (207) 287-2271

Following seasonal trends, the unemployment rates for the Belfast, Boothbay Harbor, and Rockland Labor Market Areas all edged up in October as employment fell. These rates, while higher than September's, are well below those recorded last October. Near the end of the month, Port Clyde Canning experienced some layoffs due to a lack of fish. The effects of this layoff will not appear until the November labor force estimates are released.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

ITEM	1996										1995		
	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct
Civilian Labor Force	668.8	671.9	667.0	660.4	658.1	655.2	657.0	656.0	651.5	648.9	654.0	653.8	652.4
Employed	635.5	637.4	630.6	623.7	622.2	618.7	622.6	622.7	618.1	615.9	619.4	618.4	616.4
Unemployed	33.3	34.5	36.4	36.7	36.0	36.5	34.0	33.4	33.3	33.0	34.5	35.4	36.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	5.1	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	1996										1995		
	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	544.0	543.7	542.2	540.4	542.5	542.0	542.5	544.5	544.7	544.3	545.4	544.6	543.7
Construction	22.7	22.4	22.1	21.9	21.5	21.7	21.8	22.0	22.1	22.3	22.4	22.3	22.2
Manufacturing	87.8	88.0	88.6	88.1	88.8	89.2	89.7	90.1	90.3	91.0	90.9	91.3	91.1
Durable Goods	41.1	41.7	41.7	41.9	41.9	42.3	42.3	42.5	42.5	43.1	42.7	42.6	42.5
Nondurable Goods	46.7	46.3	46.9	46.2	46.9	46.9	47.4	47.6	47.8	47.9	48.2	48.7	48.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.1	22.0	21.9	22.0	22.4	22.2	22.1	22.1	22.2	22.1	22.3	22.2	22.3
Wholesale Trade	27.2	27.1	26.9	26.9	26.9	27.0	26.7	26.7	26.5	26.4	26.2	26.1	26.1
Retail Trade	114.4	114.8	114.1	113.8	115.0	114.7	114.5	114.8	114.8	114.4	114.0	114.0	113.7
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	26.1	26.3	26.5	26.3	25.9	25.9	25.8	26.0	26.0	25.9	26.0	26.0	26.0
Services	151.0	150.6	150.1	150.0	150.2	149.9	149.9	150.3	150.3	149.5	150.4	149.6	149.2
Government	92.6	92.4	91.9	91.3	91.7	91.4	91.9	92.4	92.4	92.6	93.1	93.0	93.0

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 6. ² Mining employment is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Thus, the not-seasonally-adjusted series is used as a component of the seasonally adjusted total nonfarm wage and salary employment estimate. Source: See page 2.

Unemployment Fell Slightly in October

State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that Maine's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in October.

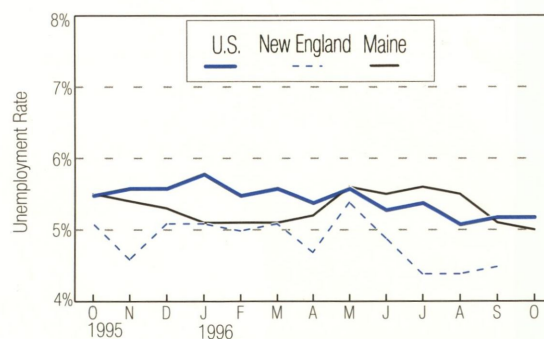
Seasonally-adjusted unemployment dropped slightly between September and October," said Commissioner Landry. "The number unemployed declined by 1,200, and the unemployment rate fell from 5.1 percent in September to 5.0 percent in October. The current unemployment rate of 5.0 percent also is below the October 1995 rate of 5.5 percent."

Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 300 between September and October, and were also up 300 over the year. Between October 1995 and October 1996, the number of jobs in services rose by 1,800, wholesale trade added 1,100, retail trade increased by 700, and construction added 500. Partially offsetting these gains, losses were recorded in manufacturing and government.

Other New England states which have reported their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates include Vermont, 4.5 percent; New Hampshire, 4.4 percent; Rhode Island, 4.3 percent; and Massachusetts, 4.1 percent. The adjusted national rate for October was 5.2 percent.

Maine's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in October, unchanged from September and

Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



down from 4.7 percent in October 1995. The unadjusted national rate was 4.9 percent in October, down from 5.0 percent in September and 5.2 percent in October 1995. Not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates in Maine counties ranged from 2.4 percent in Cumberland County to 7.4 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment rose by 200 from September to October. Local government increased by 2,200 and state government rose by 2,000 as nonprofessional workers and work study students returned to work in educational institutions after the summer break. Seasonal losses occurred in eating and drinking places and lodging services as the tourist season tapered off.



Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data

	Oct 1996	Sep 1996	Oct 1995
Average Duration	14.1	14.1	13.9
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$171.03	\$169.44	\$162.54
Exhaustees	921	755	872

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

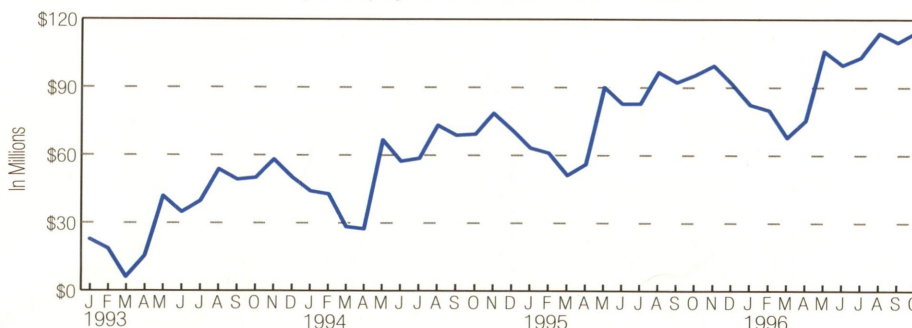
Week	11/9	11/2	10/26	10/19	10/12	10/5	9/28
1996	2,016	2,451	1,849	1,578	1,487	1,421	1,257
Week	11/11	11/4	10/28	10/21	10/14	10/7	9/30
1995	2,803	2,529	2,238	1,871	1,680	1,945	1,508

Continued Claims Less Partial*

Oct 1996	Sep 1996	Oct 1995
6,807	7,328	7,863

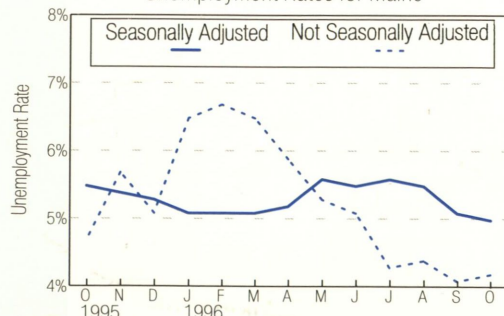
* For the week including the 12th of the month.

Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Over the year, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment was almost unchanged, rising by only 100 jobs. Services jobs increased by 1,800, with the largest gains in social services and lodging services. Wholesale trade rose by 1,100. Local government added 700 jobs. Nondurable goods manufacturing fell by 2,000, with the largest job loss recorded by leather and leather products. Durable goods manufacturing jobs fell 1,400, mainly in transportation equipment and electronic and other electric equipment. Federal and state government each lost 600 jobs.

Unemployment Rates for Maine

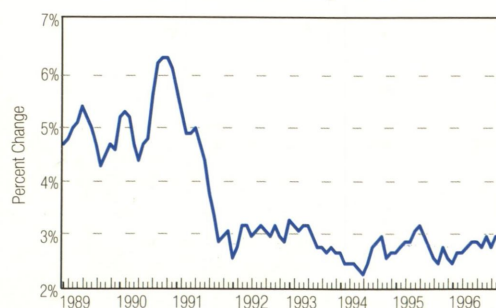


U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Dec 95
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	158.3	157.8	153.7	153.5

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.3%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+3.0%
Percent change from Last December	+3.1%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	556.6	556.4	556.5	137.4	135.7	134.8	41.7	41.3	42.7
Goods Producing	113.9	114.3	116.8	19.8	19.5	19.3	9.3	9.3	10.5
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	25.2	25.0	24.7	6.8	6.7	5.6	1.7	1.7	1.9
Building Construction	5.4	5.4	5.5	1.2	1.1	0.9	*	*	*
Heavy Construction	4.2	4.2	4.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Special Trade Contractors	15.6	15.4	15.1	5.1	5.1	4.4	*	*	*
Manufacturing	88.6	89.2	92.0	13.0	12.8	13.7	7.6	7.6	8.6
Durable Goods	41.8	42.1	43.2	5.8	5.5	6.0	2.2	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	11.2	11.3	11.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.9	3.9	4.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.1	4.1	4.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	*	*	*
Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment	7.0	7.2	7.5	1.9	1.9	2.1	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment	11.2	11.2	11.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.5	2.7	2.4	2.6	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	46.8	47.1	48.8	7.2	7.3	7.7	5.4	5.4	6.4
Food and Kindred Products	6.6	6.6	6.6	2.1	2.1	2.1	*	*	*
Textile Mill Products	4.4	4.4	4.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Apparel and Other Textile Products	2.2	2.2	2.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper and Allied Products	14.4	14.6	14.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Printing and Publishing	5.9	5.9	5.9	1.6	1.7	1.8	*	*	*
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	2.6	2.6	2.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Leather Products	8.5	8.5	9.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.8
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.7	4.3	4.3	4.6
Service Producing	442.7	442.1	439.7	117.6	116.2	115.5	32.4	32.0	32.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.6	22.4	22.8	6.3	6.4	6.2	2.0	1.9	1.8
Wholesale Trade	27.4	27.3	26.3	9.3	9.4	8.9	2.2	2.2	2.1
Retail Trade	117.2	119.4	116.5	34.4	33.6	32.7	8.6	8.3	8.7
General Merchandise Stores	13.5	12.9	13.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Stores	19.5	20.2	19.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Automotive Sales and Services	12.5	12.5	12.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Eating and Drinking Places	36.4	39.6	36.0	8.2	8.5	8.7	*	*	*
Other Retail Trade	35.3	34.2	35.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	26.1	26.4	26.0	12.1	12.1	11.6	1.9	2.0	1.9
Banking	8.3	8.4	8.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	11.7	11.8	11.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	6.1	6.2	6.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Services	153.9	155.3	152.1	36.9	37.0	38.2	12.9	12.9	12.8
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	10.7	12.9	10.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Business Services	18.0	17.9	18.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Services	51.9	51.7	52.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Educational Services	13.7	12.5	13.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Services	16.9	16.9	15.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	42.7	43.4	42.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	95.5	91.3	96.0	18.6	17.7	17.9	4.8	4.7	4.9
Federal	13.0	13.0	13.6	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	26.7	24.7	27.3	5.0	4.7	4.8	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local ²	55.8	53.6	55.1	11.4	10.8	10.9	3.8	3.7	3.9

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 1995. As a measure of reliability, the March 1995 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .04 percent lower than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.



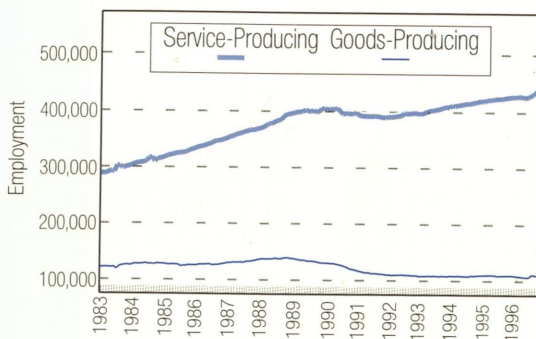
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	Oct 96	Sep 96	Oct 95	1995	1994	1993
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$510.87	\$520.55	\$502.74	40.1	40.7	39.9	\$12.74	\$12.79	\$12.60	\$12.42	\$11.88	\$11.63
Durable Goods	499.39	508.79	494.48	40.7	41.5	40.3	12.27	12.26	12.27	12.22	11.80	11.43
Lumber and Wood Products	423.78	434.69	412.49	42.0	42.7	40.8	10.09	10.18	10.11	9.80	9.46	9.33
Primary and Fabricated Metals	446.16	454.00	459.22	39.8	40.0	41.9	11.21	11.35	10.96	11.07	11.04	11.00
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	624.78	651.17	576.42	44.5	45.6	41.8	14.04	14.28	13.79	13.67	13.88	13.32
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	401.13	411.21	402.75	36.7	37.9	37.5	10.93	10.85	10.74	10.76	10.72	10.33
Transportation Equipment	644.23	648.02	652.86	40.8	41.7	40.4	15.79	15.54	16.16	16.43	15.17	14.64
Other Durable Goods	408.24	416.16	412.82	40.3	40.8	41.2	10.13	10.20	10.02	9.67	9.34	8.89
Nondurable Goods	521.01	531.60	511.56	39.5	40.0	39.2	13.19	13.29	13.05	12.61	11.95	11.79
Food and Kindred Products	369.60	370.13	352.36	36.2	35.9	35.7	10.21	10.31	9.87	9.75	9.54	9.34
Textile Mill Products	422.91	438.88	437.60	41.3	42.2	41.4	10.24	10.40	10.57	10.17	9.38	9.49
Apparel and Other Textile Products	330.83	340.20	353.50	36.8	37.8	40.4	8.99	9.00	8.75	8.32	8.08	7.95
Paper and Allied Products	803.69	816.57	805.11	42.1	43.0	43.1	19.09	18.99	18.68	18.22	17.03	16.63
Leather and Leather Products	336.66	341.11	312.92	38.3	38.5	35.6	8.79	8.86	8.79	8.54	8.30	8.00
Other Nondurable Goods	428.19	436.61	421.11	38.3	38.4	37.7	11.18	11.37	11.17	10.88	10.62	10.28
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	443.39	454.00	426.20	39.1	40.0	38.5	11.34	11.35	11.07	11.02	10.78	10.68
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	446.63	465.75	398.32	39.7	40.5	38.3	11.25	11.50	10.40	10.11	9.76	9.82

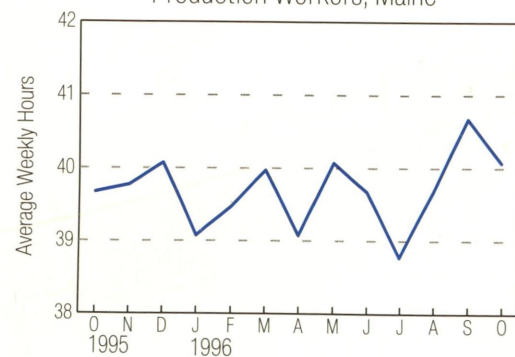
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

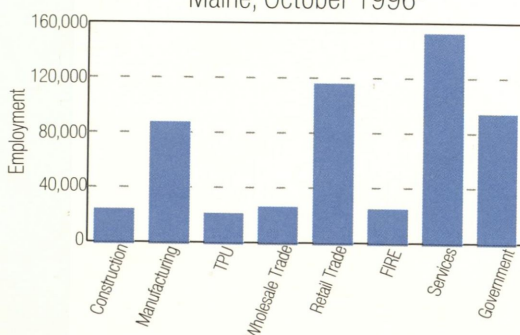
Nonfarm Employment by Sector
January 1983 - October 1996, Maine¹



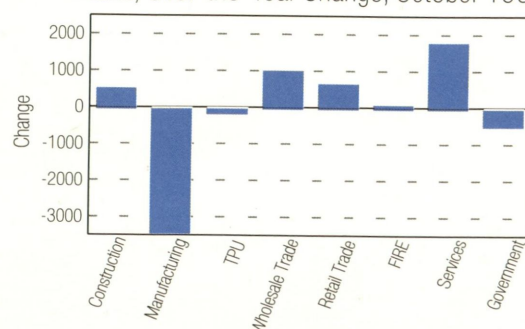
Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, October 1996²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, October 1996²



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.

TPU: Transportation, Communication, & Public Utilities
FIRE: Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate



Employment by Major Industry Division for Maine Counties¹

	Androscoggin	Aroostook	Cumberland	Franklin	Hancock	Kennebec	Knox	Lincoln	Oxford	Penobscot	Piscataquis	Sagadahoc	Somerset	Waldo	Washington	York
First Quarter 1995																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	619	696	776	49	129	367	105	76	148	396	61	33	149	36	118	27
Mining and Construction	1,433	674	5,296	326	1,069	1,537	628	580	504	1,613	82	416	1,093	273	367	1,60
Manufacturing	9,157	5,040	15,162	4,002	2,684	5,882	2,583	838	4,386	9,632	2,036	8,502	5,259	1,426	2,072	12,07
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,621	1,711	6,205	248	663	2,099	493	711	569	3,454	217	201	720	258	533	1,10
Wholesale Trade	2,111	916	8,956	113	323	2,740	874	154	223	3,143	73	167	338	156	385	1,19
Retail Trade	8,251	6,138	32,407	2,395	3,613	9,498	2,800	2,122	2,982	13,609	988	1,651	2,581	1,558	2,125	10,97
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,880	896	12,138	569	612	1,826	1,235	347	454	1,905	84	253	313	143	269	1,44
Services	11,637	6,511	42,036	2,514	4,671	13,565	3,914	2,399	4,895	15,437	935	2,204	3,603	1,429	2,035	10,98
State Government	431	922	4,069	392	567	9,178	719	56	190	4,853	15	38	496	39	375	354
Local Government	4,211	3,966	11,346	1,218	2,125	5,057	1,548	1,398	2,329	6,996	1,031	1,497	2,124	1,241	1,765	6,49
Federal Government	339	493	3,421	93	354	1,833	135	103	163	1,262	63	308	152	112	324	4,58
Total	41,690	27,962	141,813	11,918	16,812	53,585	15,034	8,782	16,842	62,300	5,586	15,269	16,829	6,671	10,367	51,08

First Quarter 1996

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	679	695	840	48	213	387	141	110	180	367	65	51	166	42	182	32
Mining and Construction	1,544	540	5,573	382	1,118	1,617	687	416	458	1,782	89	458	1,322	265	339	1,68
Manufacturing	8,438	5,041	15,607	3,626	2,629	5,576	2,745	867	4,162	9,364	1,946	7,986	5,068	1,407	2,083	11,38
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,658	1,685	6,316	234	662	2,028	573	633	636	3,472	221	208	644	282	524	1,09
Wholesale Trade	2,174	872	9,680	131	300	2,842	825	191	231	3,173	62	178	338	237	367	1,36
Retail Trade	8,178	5,752	31,397	2,465	3,442	9,450	2,914	2,196	2,971	13,500	1,017	1,650	2,686	1,533	2,017	11,30
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,912	937	11,912	582	606	1,797	1,638	360	440	1,931	87	288	329	141	279	1,49
Services	12,176	6,578	42,750	2,472	4,938	14,349	4,029	2,383	5,011	15,751	1,026	2,184	3,532	1,653	2,126	11,43
State Government	417	910	3,925	394	501	8,875	668	60	189	4,455	14	34	481	45	371	42
Local Government	4,203	3,981	11,746	1,248	2,124	5,203	1,570	1,431	2,360	6,734	981	1,495	2,154	1,265	1,778	6,77
Federal Government	326	474	3,309	99	310	1,804	136	100	162	1,224	67	279	155	112	314	4,29
Total	41,710	27,465	143,055	11,682	16,842	53,928	15,925	8,747	16,801	61,751	5,573	14,809	16,875	6,980	10,380	51,53

Change, First Quarter 1995 to First Quarter 1996

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	60	-1	64	-1	84	20	36	34	32	-29	4	18	17	6	64	51
Mining and Construction	111	-134	277	56	49	80	59	-164	-46	169	7	42	229	-8	-28	28
Manufacturing	-719	1	445	-376	-55	-306	162	29	-224	-268	-90	-516	-191	-19	11	-68
Transportation and Public Utilities	37	-26	111	-14	-1	-71	80	-78	67	18	4	7	-76	24	-9	-11
Wholesale Trade	63	-44	724	18	-23	102	-49	37	8	30	-11	11	0	81	-18	164
Retail Trade	-73	-386	-1010	70	-171	-48	114	74	-11	-109	29	-1	105	-25	-108	328
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	32	41	-226	13	-6	-29	403	13	-14	26	3	35	16	-2	10	57
Services	539	67	714	-42	267	784	115	-16	116	314	91	-20	-71	224	91	451
State Government	-14	-12	-144	2	-66	-303	-51	4	-1	-398	-1	-4	-15	6	-4	71
Local Government	-8	15	400	30	-1	146	22	33	31	-262	-50	-2	30	24	13	277
Federal Government	-13	-19	-112	6	-44	-29	1	-3	-1	-38	4	-29	3	0	-10	-290
Total	20	-497	1,242	-236	30	343	891	-35	-41	-549	-13	-460	46	309	13	444

¹ Employment reported by employers subject to the Maine Employment Security Law. Also included is reported employment of federal government installations within the state.

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